Illegal forward trading in food-grains and edible oils

210. SHRI DINKARRAO GOVINDRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of illegal forward trading in foodgrains and edible oils; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to check this trend?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) There have been some reports about illegal forward trading in certain edible oils. However, Government have no information about illegal forward trading in foodgrains.

(b) Under the Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1952, prevention of illegal forward trading is the responsibility of the State Governments. Taking into account the recent reports that some traders are indulging in illegal forward trading in banned commodities, the Central Government and the Forward Markets Commission have urged the State Governments [U.T. Administrations several times during the past three months to take strict action against persons indulging in illegal forward trading particularly in oilseeds and edible oils. The drive against illegal forward trading has been stepped up-

NRI scheme for Asiad flat,

211. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount spent on publicity, etc. on the Non-Resident Indians' scheme for he Asiad flats and how much is the foreign exchange content therein;

(b) how many flats were scheduled for the NRIs and the number actually sold to them; and

(c) how much amount as property tax, etc. has accrued so far from the Government due to the Municipal Corporation, Delhi, on all the Asiad flats?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) and (b) A sum of Rs. 2.44 lakh has been spent by the Delhi Development Authority on publicity on the Non-Resident Indians Scheme for the Asiad Flats. The Delhi Development Authority has reported that there is no foreign exchange content involved in it. Initially, 599 flats were offered for allotment to NRIs out of which only 8 flats could be disposed of. Subsequently, on requests received from the NRIs again, it was decided to offer them 57 flats. In all, till date, 32 flats have been handed over to the NRIs. In addition, earnest money equivalent to US $ 5000 has been received for 3 more flats and the allotment is under process in those cases.

(c) According to a decision of the Delhi Administration, service charges will be levied on Asiad Complex properties being transferred to Government Departments, as is done by the MCD in respect of all Government properties. As regards the remaining properties in that complex, the individual allottee of property is liable to pay the property tax from the date the possession thereof is given to him. In regard to the tax liability pertaining to the period between the Asian Games and the date of handing over of possession, a decision is yet to be taken.

Unhygienic conditions at ISBT

•212. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the Unhygienic conditions prevailing at the Inter State Bus Terminal in Delhi;

(b) whether Government are aware of the encroachment in its corridors